



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

AIR FORCE SERGEANT SENTENCED TO 78 MONTHS ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

TUCSON – Ernest David Craighead, 35, of Tucson, AZ, was sentenced in Tucson today to 78 months incarceration by U.S. District Judge John M. Roll. Craighead had pleaded guilty on August 7, 2006, to both counts in the indictment: Attempted Transportation and Shipping (Count One) and Possession (Count Two) of Child Pornography.

In July of 2004, an agent from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, acting in an undercover capacity, downloaded two pornographic images depicting prepubescent children made available for sharing over the internet on a peer to peer file sharing network called Gnutella. Using identifying information, the agents traced the computer sharing those files to a residence in on the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz.

On July 27, 2004, the agents executed a Federal search warrant and seized the computer. They interviewed the defendant who stated, in sum and substance, that using the application "LimeWire", he downloaded child pornography, which he saved to a folder he named "PT," which stood for "preteen." Further, Craighead indicated that he had saved some of the child pornography to a CD. No one else was living at the residence at the time the search warrant was executed. A subsequent forensic examination of the computer revealed 16 movies of child pornography located on the hard drive of the computer and approximately 15 images and 3 movies of child pornography located on 3 CD-R's. The images and movies depicted prepubescent minor females engaged in sexual activity with other minors and adults, including acts of bondage.

The sentence of 78 months in custody will be followed by lifetime supervised release, with a number of conditions. One of those conditions will require the defendant to register as a sex offender.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI. The prosecution was handled by Judson T. Mihok, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

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